

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OPR-02 A-01 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SY-05 SAM-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00

CCO-00 INRE-00 OC-06 NEAE-00 PRS-01 IO-13 PM-04 SCS-03

SCA-01 /087 W

----- 064396

Z 191645Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 1227

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN FLASH

AMEMBASSY ATHENS FLASH

AMEMBASSY CAIRO FLASH

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS FLASH

AMEMBASSY LONDON FLASH

AMEMBASSY JIDDA FLASH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART FLASH

USCINCEUR FLASH

USIA WASHDC FLASH

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STUTTGART FOR ELG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMER, LE, US

SUBJECT: POSTPONEMENT OF BEIRUT EVACUATION: ANNOUNCEMENT AND PRESS
GUIDANCE

1. WE ARE INSERTING THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT IN BEIRUT
PAPERS APPEARING TOMORROW MORNING: QUOTE CONVOY TO
DAMASCUS POSTPONED. THE LAND CONVOY TO DAMASCUS SCHEDULED
TO DEPART ON JULY 20 HAS BEEN POSTPONED. A NEW DATE WILL BE
ANNOUNCED SHORTLY IN THIS NEWSPAPER. UNQUOTE REQUEST THIS ANNOUNCEMENT

T

BE PLACED ON VOA AND BBC AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PHRASE "IN

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THIS NEWSPAPER" SHOULD BE CHANGED TO "ON THIS STATION."

2. WE SUGGEST FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE ON THIS POSTPONEMENT:

Q. WHY ARE YOU POSTPONING THIS CONVOY?

A. BECAUSE WE ARE ADVISED THAT THE ROUTE IS NOT TOTALLY SECURE.

Q. WHO ADVISED YOU OF THIS?

A. THE PARTIES WITH WHOM WE ARE IN CONTACT.

Q. DOES THIS INCLUDE THE PLO?

A. IT INCLUDES ALL PARTIES WITH WHOM WE HAVE HAD DIRECT AND INDIRECT CONTACT.

Q. WAS THERE A THREAT?

A. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY THREAT.

Q. WHEN WILL THE CONVOY BE RE-SCHEDULED?

A. WE HOPE TO ANNOUNCE A NEW DATE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

Q. IS THERE ANY CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO OTHER MEANS OF DEPARTURE?

A. NOT AT THIS TIME.

Q. HOW MANY ARE NOW REGISTERED FOR DEPARTURE?

A. AS OF JULY 19, 403 PERSONS HAVE REGISTERED. OF THOSE, 143 ARE AMERICANS.

3. SECURITY CONTACT HAS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THAT PLO NOT BE IDENTIFIED AS SOURCE OF ADVICE LEADING TO POSTPONEMENT. THEREFORE WE DO NOT PLAN TO BE DRAWN OUT ON QUESTION OF WHO ADVISED US.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMERGENCY EVACUATION, EVACUATION PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BEIRUT06426
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760277-0518
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760746/aaaabnxq.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSTPONEMENT OF BEIRUT EVACUATION: ANNOUNCEMENT AND PRESS GUIDANCE
TAGS: AEMR, LE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006